

*Believe in  
Faith*





# THE FIRST FRUITS

Serving Christ by proclaiming Christ crucified in the  
Minnesota North District of the LCMS

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First Evangelical Lutheran Church; Grand Rapids, MN  
A member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



## Pastor's Corner

There is an old joke that says, “Old pastors do not retire or die – they just go *on* and *on* and *on*.” As a pastor I do not necessarily see much humor in that, and it is not entirely true. As of this moment I am not planning on dying soon, but I am attempting the retirement part – *again*. Since I retired the first time, I have served four churches in vacancy and full-time at First Lutheran for a time.

Over the time I have served you my voice has been getting progressively weaker. This was the reason I asked lay readers to share the scripture lessons. It reduced the amount of speaking. This was especially important before this Covid-19 shutdown when Sunday mornings were three straight hours of speaking. Due to the worsening situation with my voice, chronic kidney disease, and a pancreas situation which needs recurring monitoring, it seems that this is the time to pull back from active pastoral ministry.

Pastor Steve Breitbarth, of Chisholm, has stated a willingness to serve while the congregation continues with the calling process for a full-time pastor. The members of the council and the elders will be negotiating with him to work out the details. It bothers me to leave you at this time, but I hope you all understand why I am planning on ending my time among you at the end of May or the middle of June at the latest.

At the same time, I have known Pastor Breitbarth for over 40 years and I know he will do an excellent job of caring for your spiritual needs.

It has been an honor and my pleasure to have served you at First Lutheran for these past 28 months. That does not seem like a terribly long time, but it has been time enough to feel close to you as a congregation. When Sue and I and our only child at the time arrived here 47 years ago I fell in love with Grand Rapids immediately. The first day I laid eyes on this area I could not believe how beautiful

**June 2020**



the view was as I came down the hill on 169 and saw Pokegama Lake. I would have never guessed that we would raise five children here and live in this beautiful area for nearly half a century.

As I served the congregations in Hill City and Cohasset, I quickly became aware of how First Lutheran Church was involved in starting and sustaining the ministries I came into. First Lutheran was “the mother church” and I was in awe of you. Pastor Bentrup became my mentor before people even talked about mentors. To this day I still enjoy keeping up with my friendship with Pastor Cloeter. The ties go way back, and it has been like coming full circle to be one of those pastors with their picture hanging on the wall in the council room.

In retirement Sue and I would ideally hope to move to be closer to three of our daughters who live to the west. Our eyes are set on Detroit Lakes – one of the four churches I have served in vacancy. This strange virus situation has negatively impacted the real estate market, so we are learning patience while we wait for just the right house to pop up. The times are under God’s control and we are in His hands, but those are our plans and intentions for right now. May that same gracious God also hold you in His loving hands. God’s blessings to you now and always.

In Jesus’ name,  
**PASTOR ZEIGE**



*You will surely be missed by the First Lutheran congregation. Best Wishes to You and Sue as you go into this new chapter of your lives together.*



*Flag Day June 14*



**JULY**  
**“FIRST FRUITS”**  
**ARTICLES**

July “First Fruits” items are  
Due by June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Submit\*\*\***  
**Articles To**  
**Church Office**

**HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE**

I was walking down life's highway long Time ago. One day, I saw a sign that read "Heaven's Grocery Store" As I got a little closer, the door opened wide, and when I came to myself, I was standing inside. I saw a host of angels that where standing everywhere. One handed me a basket and said, "My Child, shop with care." Everything a Christian needed was in that Grocery Store. And all you couldn't fit in the basket; you could come back for the next day.

First, I got some **Patience**; **Love** was in the same row. Further down was **Understanding**, you need that where ever you go. I got a box or two of **Wisdom**, a bag or two of . I just could not miss the **Holy Ghost** for it was all over

the place. I stopped to get **Strength** and **Courage** to help me run this race. By then, my basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed some **Grace**.

I did not forget **Salvation**; that was free. So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me. Then, I started up to the counter to pay for my grocery bill, for I had everything to do my Master's will.

As I went up the aisle, I saw **Prayer**, and I just had to put that in. For I knew when I stepped outside, I could run right into sin. **Peace** and **Joy** were plentiful; they were on the last shelf. **Song** and **Praises** were hanging near, so I helped myself.

Then I said to the Angel, "Now, how much do I owe?" He just smiled and said, "Just take that wherever you go." Again I smiled at him and said, "How much do I really owe?" He smiled again and said, "My child, **Jesus** paid your bill a long time ago!"

This poem was written by Dorothy Shaffer. Dorothy was a charter member of Trinity. Her poem does a wonderful job of reflecting the gift of our salvation

And what the blessings of what the blessings of God truly are.

This poem was read during her funeral sermon. Verona Schuiling contributed this.

Submitted by Mary Buech

**Lutheran Island Camp**  
**"Nourishing the whole person  
for joyful, Christ-centered life  
and service"**

Here are the latest opportunities to strengthen your faith and connect with the community.

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Like many of you, Lutheran Island Camp is facing financial challenges as events are rescheduled. We have been blessed, however, by individuals and organizations have been sending in donations understanding our financial situation. The outpouring has been wonderful. We have received generous gifts through an emergency appeal that we began in March. We will continue to touch base with our camp family. Your support of the Lord's work here is greatly appreciated. If you would like to help you can donate on our website or contact Wayne Hilchen at [licdevelopment@islandcamp.org](mailto:licdevelopment@islandcamp.org).

### **What is happening:**

The Covid 19 pandemic is making it necessary to adjust the summer camp schedules. We do have 14 eager summer staff planning to arrive at the Island to run an abbreviated summer schedule. We are monitoring the changing requirements so that we are prepared to open as soon as we are given the OK to move ahead. Keep an eye out for updates and anticipated camp dates on Facebook and on our website: [www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org).

### **THRIVENT ACTION TEAM PROJECTS**

If you would like to help with a Thrivent Action Team project, we can let you know what projects are available to do. Currently twenty projects are planned and are being applied for. There is more to be done. We appreciate those who use their Thrivent Action Teams to benefit the Lord's work at Lutheran Island Camp. Let us know you want to help: [licdevelopment@islandcamp.org](mailto:licdevelopment@islandcamp.org).

Blessings to all-

Oh, How we all pray that we will be worshipping as one body of believers in physical unity, soon! In the meantime, we are thankful we can worship in our homes with family because of our new media system. Many thanks to all who make those services so meaningful.

As Sunday School superintendent, my prayer is that our children continue to remain and grow in their relationship with our Lord and Savior.

I also pray we will have the opportunity to have VBS program in August.

Please continue to pray for all our children, families, and all staff members. Faith will always triumph over fear.

**In Christ,  
Mary Buech**



*Quote from Pastor Bill Zeige  
His article in  
The Lutheran Digest*

*“Anyone who is wrapped up in  
themselves makes a small  
package”*

# SCAM! Alert

## **Elder Justice Corner: COVID-19 Scams and Fraud**

Please be aware of some of the COVID-19 scams that are targeting older adults. Unfortunately, people continue to use COVID-19 as a way to manipulate and target vulnerable populations.

**Counterfeit Stimulus Checks:** You might receive what appears to be an authentic check (but is actually fake) with a number to call for you to verify your information. Providing this information to them is simply a way for them to gain access to your checking account so they can take your money or use your personal information to secure credit cards and other documents.

**IRS Scams:** Someone calls you pretending to be from the IRS saying that they need your financial information in order for you to receive your stimulus check. Don't fall for this! The IRS has told us that they will never call you unless they are returning your call. They will also not contact you via text message or on social media.

### **Fake COVID Vaccines/Test**

**Kits:** Someone might try to sell you test kits or other products that they say you can use to test for the virus or that will prevent the virus. These might be vaccines, pills with high doses of Vitamin C or some kind of air filter system that they say will remove COVID-19 from the air in your home. There is no cure or vaccine for this virus and testing is only available from your medical professional or through your local and state governments. And, none of these are delivered to your house.

### **Errands-Grocery-**

**shopping/Medication Pick-up:** Be careful of someone you don't know calling to offer to run errands for you such as grocery shopping and picking up medications or other supplies. These individuals will take your cash and never be seen again, leaving you empty-handed.

### **Scams Targeting Your Social**

**Security Benefits:** Someone is calling you to say that, due to COVID-19, your Social Security benefits will be decreased or suspended unless you provide personal information or send them money to maintain regular benefit payments during this period.

Whether by text, email or letter, any communication saying that you will not receive your benefits due to COVID-19 is a scam.

**Online Shopping:** Many of us are now going online to buy groceries, medical masks and cleaning supplies. Be sure to purchase these goods directly from an established store or internet service that offers contactless delivery. Some others may not even have the goods that you're trying to order. Do not include this as a link, just list like the others.

**Person in Need Scams:** This is a variation of the grandchild scam. Someone might contact you claiming to be a grandchild, friend, or relative who is ill or stranded someplace and needs for you to send them money. They might also ask you to keep it a secret. Hang up and call the person they're pretending to be to see if they are okay. Do not send money unless you are sure their story checks out.

**Census Scam:** Census scammers may contact you by phone, email, regular mail or visit you seeking your

personal and financial information. They may also tell you that this information is required before you can receive your stimulus check. Real Census workers will never ask for financial information and receiving your stimulus check is not connected with completing the Census.

For more information on COVID-19 scams I encourage you to visit the [FTC](#), [HHS](#), [DOJ](#), and [SSA](#) websites.

### **Cybersecurity for Senior Citizens**

The Department of State has shared with the public some helpful tips for Senior Citizens to recognize evolving cyber threats. I urge you to share this with your volunteers. The document can be found [here](#).



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[www.eldercircle.org](http://www.eldercircle.org)





## **LIBRARY CORNER FOR JUNE, 2020**

We are pleased to report the addition of a new book shelf section to our church library. Many thanks go out to Jim Hohenstein for building it for us. He said he enjoyed having this project to work on during the sheltering-in-place season. Darlene and I are looking forward to getting back to work processing new books and reorganizing the shelves for easier access.

**A LONG TIME COMIN'** by Robin W. Pearson found under 813.6 Pea. The following is copied from an on-line review: "There are so many things that can happen to a person, things that other people can't understand - even the person involved sometimes doesn't understand." And the one person who has the ability to explain it all is nearing the end of explanations. When Evelyn Lester arrives at her grandmother's little house, she is unprepared for the stream of unfettered words that the crotchety old woman spews out of her mouth. Granny B isn't exactly mean, but she can seem that way to those who don't really know her; she knows a lot more about life and death than most people, but she sure doesn't crave any sympathy; she has lived a lifetime of ups and downs, but is

finally ready to admit....that grace took a "long time comin'". What a lovely journey along the raw edges of a family, where pain always hovered just beneath the surface, and secrets lived and breathed much longer than the truth. What matters most is that in the end, a mother's sacrifice and determination to give her children what they needed the most, gifted them with a legacy that they are finally able to recognize and understand."

**A SKY WITHOUT STARS** by Linda S. Clare found under 813.6 Cla. The following is copied from an on-line review: "Frankie Chasing Bear is caught between cultures. She wants to raise her son Harold to revere his Lakota heritage, but she also thinks he will need to learn the white man's ways to succeed. After the untimely death of her husband, Frankie joins the U.S. Government's Relocation Program and moves to Arizona. There she begins sewing a Lakota Star pattern quilt for Harold with tribal wisdom sung, sewn, and prayed into it.

A bed without a quilt is like a sky without stars, but neither the quilt--nor her new life--comes easily to Frankie. Nick Vandergriff, for instance, is the last man Frankie wants to trust. He's half-Lakota but Christian, and Frankie can see no good coming from that faith after her own parents were forced to convert at an Indian school. Can Nick convince Frankie that white men and Christians aren't all bad? And will Frankie learn



that love is the most important ingredient--for her son's quilt and life itself?"

**DANGEROUS ILLUSIONS** by Irene Hannon found under 813.54 Han (Book 1). The following is copied from an on-line review: "Trish Bailey is on overload trying to deal with a demanding job, an ailing mother, and a healing heart. When a series of unsettling memory lapses leads to a tragic death—and puts Trish under police scrutiny—her world is once again thrown into turmoil. Detective Colin Flynn isn't certain what to think of the facts he uncovers during his investigation. Did Trish simply make a terrible mistake or is there more to the case than meets the eye? As he searches for answers, disturbing information begins to emerge—and if the forces at work are as evil as he suspects, the situation isn't just dangerous . . . it's deadly. Bestselling and award-winning

author Irene Hannon captures readers with a mind-bending story that will have them doubling back to retrace their steps—and figure out what they missed!"

*"Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are."* – Mason Cooley





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To All Of Our Youth Born In



## WHO ARE OUR NEIGHBORS?

How have you been feeling over the last two and a half months staying home? Have you noticed one minute you are happy and then the next minute you feel anxious, angry, tired, confused as to what is going on? Why are we doing what we are doing? In my last newsletter article, I stated that we are all in the same storm but different boats. Each one of us is affected differently. Each one of you is experiencing something different. Perhaps you don't know why your feelings are all over the place, if you stop to think about it, we are all grieving. If you have ever lost a loved one you know all too well what grief is, and it can just hit you at any moment. We are all grieving the life we used to have and the things we used to be able to do.

Grief has stages and you don't experience them in order. The five stages of grief are denial and isolation, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Keep in mind that we all grieve differently and not in the same order.

Here are some scriptures that talk about grief.

Psalm 34:18 *The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.*

Matthew 5:4 *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

Luke 6:21 *"...Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh."*

God gave us free will. He wanted us to be able to make our own decisions and choose right from wrong. Although in a perfect world we would never sin, but sin was

passed down to us from Adam and Eve. We all have the right to choose for ourselves. Right now, our choices have been taken away and that can make some of us incredibly angry, bitter, hurt, anxious, scared, some may even feel happy.

When our feelings start to overwhelm us, we need to stop and pray. Psalm 46:10 *Be still and know that I am God.* Stop what you are doing and be silent. Even if you don't know what to pray for, just be silent. God knows what is on your heart. Ask him for peace and love. When we get angry it is easy for us to take it out on our loved ones. But before we speak what if we walked away and was just silent? Sometimes I can feel the blood start to boil in my veins and I want to pounce, but I ask Jesus to keep me calm, give my heart peace and show love and kindness and not anger.

These times are uncertain, and we don't know what the future holds. For some of us that can be particularly challenging, some of us love living in the moment and do not care what the future holds. I cannot tell you what the outcome of this pandemic is.

What I can tell you is I am starting to see how we are dividing instead of coming together. Since we are being told to stay away from others, is that driving us apart? I pray that is not the case.

I came across a study on the Art of Neighboring and I thought what a great way to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors and go back to how things used to be. You know when you could call your neighbor for a cup of sugar or stop over just to say hi. We have seen so many crimes on the news that we fear our neighbors now.

We lock our doors, our vehicles, we keep ourselves isolated to the outside world. Some of you I am sure are wonderful neighbors. For those that forgot what it is to be a neighbor I invite you to join my class starting June 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon for six weeks. This will be a virtual class on Zoom, but it does have a book that we will work through. There will be a cost of \$10.75 to cover the cost of the book and materials. Please RSVP to me as soon as you can as I only have 10 copies on hand. I will order more if needed.

### **THE ART OF NEIGHBORING**

Hmm, is there an art to be a good neighbor? Are you a good neighbor? Romans 13: 8-10 *Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.* The Bible tells us to love our neighbor as you love yourself. Who is our neighbor? When we think of our neighbor as everyone around us, we don't take it seriously to learn more about them. We tend to put them in a generalized category. That would be too many people to get to know, right? What if we focused on our actual neighbors? Now in order to love them you must first get to know them. Think about your eight closest neighbors, do you know their names? How well do you know them? Do you feel comfortable calling them if you need help with something or to borrow a cup of sugar or a couple of eggs?

The last few months have had a dramatic change to us all. Have you felt comfortable checking in on your neighbors to see how they are doing? I know I am asking a lot of questions, but I wanted you to really think about your neighbors and how well you know them. Think of the impact you can have just in your own neighborhood. In the book "The Art of Neighboring" a group of pastors went to their Mayor and asked how they could change the city. The Mayor said that so many people rely on government subsidies that if they could just rely on their neighbors that would help lighten the load on the programs. Think about how you can have such a huge impact by just being a good neighbor and living the way the Bible tells us to live.

To some this does not come easily. So, for that I am going to hold a virtual study on how to get to know your neighbor. Starting June 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon, I am going to hold a virtual class on The Art of Neighboring. We are going to dive into how we can get to know our neighbors and where to start. For six weeks we will meet.

Week 1: The call to neighboring

Week 2: The time barrier

Week 3: The fear factor

Week 4: Motives matter

Week 5: The art of receiving

Week 6: Peacemaking

God's Peace and Love to each one of you!

*Jessica Pellinen*

*Family Ministry Program*

*Director*

[firstevyouth@gmail.com](mailto:firstevyouth@gmail.com)

218-244-5365



## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - UNAPPROVED

May 12, 2020

Present: Doug Carlson, Dwight Kessler, Pastor Zeige, Jessica Pellinen, Mary Buech, Greg Taylor, Gary Rosin, Tom Lattimore, Les Flem, Jennifer Flem, Greg Robertson, Debbie Robertson, Linda Urevig

Call to order: Dwight K. called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Opening devotion and prayer: Pastor Zeige shared a devotion and prayer referencing the Benediction and emphasizing the word “keep”. God is still in control and He is keeping us strong and faithful.

### Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
  2. Approval of Minutes
- \*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Agenda and the Minutes as written.

### Oral Reports of Boards and Committees

1. Boards of Christian Education & Youth: Greg R. – No Meeting
2. Board of Elders: Les F. – No Meeting
3. Boards of Human Care & Missions: Mary B. – No Meeting
4. Board of Stewardship: Doug C. – No Meeting. Doug stated the offerings are being counted every two weeks. Offerings are coming in the mail, drop box and online. His advice to the Boards is to separate your needs from your wants. The Financial Review is on hold at this time.
5. Board of Trustees: Gary R. – Report in Packet
6. Revolving Trust Fund Committee: Greg T. – No Meeting. Possibly early in June.

7. Wiebe Grant Committee: Greg T. – No Requests
8. Direction and Planning Committee: Greg T. – No Meeting

**Family Ministry Program Director’s Report:** Report in Packet. Jessica stated that church service views have been dropping off since Holy Week.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Zeige stated that in addition to the church services still available to be viewed, he has added a weekly Bible Study and a Weekly Encouragement Message. It is a blessing to have Jessica, Tom, Heather and the singers for the taping of the church services. Pastor has been making phone calls to members asking if there is anything we can do for them. So far, 158 telephone contacts have been made, 3 funerals services were done at the Funeral Home, 2 funerals are on hold, and the Confirmation Service for the 5 confirmands in on hold.

**Financial Secretary’s Report: Debbie R. – Report in Packet**

YTD income 2020: \$96,322.25

YTD income 2019: \$103,448.34

## **Treasurer's Report: Jennifer F. – Report in Packet**

As of: April 30, 2020

General Fund Chkg: \$39,900.22

Building Fund Chkg: \$57,776.38

Mortgage loan balance: \$78,532.33

Revolving trust fund Chkg: \$121,998.29

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the oral and written Board and Committee Reports.

Correspondence – There was a letter from John Howrey regarding a possible loan available to the church. Greg T. clarified that we would not be eligible because we did not lay off any employees.

### **Unfinished Business**

1. Call Committee Update – Tom L. stated that the committee interviewed 4 pastors and will be meeting again on May 21<sup>st</sup> to decide which ones would be brought to the congregation for a vote to call.
2. AV Committee Update – Tom L. stated that the committee had met before the shutdown. He and Jessica have been doing the recording. Brad B. has recently joined them. Tom is getting estimates on some needed equipment upgrades.
3. Weather Cancellation of Church Services Update – September Completion Date – Tom stated that they are looking at options, possibly a text option. Jessica stated that

email information is being updated and many people do not have email.

4. Personnel Manual – Will Reschedule at a later meeting
5. Amazon Smile Account Update – Jessica stated that the account is set up and ready to go.
6. Archival Fire Proof Cabinets Update – August Completion Date – Jennifer doesn't have the final answer from American Bank as to availability.
7. American Red Cross Blood Drive May 28<sup>th</sup> to be held in our Fellowship Hall

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to have the American Red Cross Blood Drive on May 28<sup>th</sup> in our Fellowship Hall.

8. Quarterly National Youth Gathering Funding

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to go forward with the first quarter budgeted funds in the amount of \$750.00 to be set aside for the National Youth Gathering.

9. Organ Repair Funding – Jennifer stated that the tear down was to take place on May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, but was postponed because of a Covid19 issue within the company. Payment of \$20,000 will be given to them at tear down. Greg T. stated that the money for the final payment is available from the Revolving Trust Fund and the committee will be looking at that.

## New Business

1. Memorial Blood Drive possible date in October

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize Shirley to set a date in October for the Memorial Blood Drive.

\*\*\*Please note that Shirley clarified that this will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive not a Memorial Blood Drive. The date has been scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

2. Vacancy Pastor Report – Les stated that Pastor Steve Breitbarth has agreed to be our Vacancy Pastor. He would like to have a Zoom Meeting with the church council and elders to ask questions to be sure we have the same expectations.

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to have a Zoom Meeting with Pastor Breitbarth on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM.

3. Return to Church Plan – Les stated that it depends on what restrictions are still in place. Jessica has been looking at the insurance guidelines. We need to be respectful of all people; Consider the age of our congregation; Singing; No easy task to go back to giving communion; Hand sanitizer needs. Les will work with Pastor, Elders and Jessica to put a plan together.

## 4. Trustee Projects

- Payment for Snow Removal

\*\*\*Motion was made, seconded and approved to pay \$5,500.00 to Gary Rosin for snow removal and give him an In-Kind Donation Receipt for \$2,400.00 for plowing.

- Rain Gutters on Garage -----  
These two items were not discussed.
- Sod Around Garage -----  
They had not been approved by the Board of Trustees.

5. Online Giving – Jennifer stated that the company that services the online giving account charges a percent of the donation amount. The donator has the option to add that amount to their charge total. That would eliminate the charge to the church.

## Caring and Sharing

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52PM  
Pastor Zeige closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Urevig,  
Recording Secretary

## COMING EVENTS

June 2nd – Board Meetings 6:30PM or  
as decided by each Board

June 9th – Council Meeting 5:30PM





May 21, 2020

We are here to help those in need of our services and local churches continue to offer great support to keep us doing what we have been called to do. This generosity has helped us to provide services to 22 individual clients during everchanging times. These services included 20 COVID Care packs, 1 Car Seat education, 10 Earn While You Learn classes, 1 Pac-n-play, 1 SIDS education, 19 boutique and used clothing visits for necessary infant and child care items and clothing during April. The annual Baby Bottle Drive that we run from Mother's Day to Father's Day is a huge part of our donated funds. This year with churches being closed it has made it a bit challenging but God is faithful! Call us and we can give you baby bottles or giving envelope for the Baby Bottle drive. Every donation no matter the size helps us to reach out and save lives. We know we are not in this alone, you are a major part of the change we are making. Thank you so much for your generous support! Here is a link to an online tour you can take of our **Grand Rapids** Center:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08F-RPFooOk>

Here are a few extra ways that you could consider to help us reach out to local women, men, teens and families: Donate baby items: We are in need of diapers size 5-7, size 6-9-month boys' pants and girls pajamas, and Aldi's gift cards Use the Amazon Smile Link to share with friends and family for our organization! <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0579091> Choose New Beginnings Pregnancy Care Center for your Thrivent Choice Dollars or as an action team fundraiser. Sew masks for staff and for the clients who will be coming in when we can open again. <https://youtu.be/9QrW4zljMwY> and you could order washable filter fabric from Filti.fabric online. Choose New Beginnings Pregnancy Care Center as a nonprofit birthday fundraiser on Facebook.

"For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation." Psalms 100:5

Amanda Jo Grovenburg, Executive Director      218-326-0404  
[www.newbeginningspregnancy.com](http://www.newbeginningspregnancy.com)

Kathy Metzger, Outreach Coordinator

Hello, we just wanted to say thank you to the worship team that puts together the Sunday worship services. What a blessing it has been to be able to worship with you each Sunday. We have explored many options of online church services since the pandemic has started. Yours is by far the best we have found. It will never be the same as being in the church building, but this is as close as it gets.

I am sure there are expenses related to the broadcast of this worship. Please use the enclosed check to help offset the costs. If there is not a need in this area, please feel free to designate the funds wherever you wish.

Be sure to tell Pastor Zeige that his messages are great. He has been blessed by God with a gift to reach out to everyone listening. If you ask him if it is possible to perform a baptism of twins without water, he will know exactly who this letter is from.

I know God has a plan for us all. He is in control of this global pandemic we are experiencing. If there is only one blessing that comes from this pandemic, it is the ability for our family to be able to worship with Pastor Zeige. I hope that online worship will continue even after the pandemic is over. I am sure when this is all over we will see many blessings coming from it.

Thank you again for your service to the church ministry.

Terry and Ani James Family

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